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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
PARTHASARATHY, PRAMILA	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2136	

DATE MAILED: 09/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/833,013	BRUNDAGE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Pramila Parthasarathy	2136	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *08 March 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-32* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-32* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *5/15/03&3/8/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the application filed on 04/10/2001. Claims 1 – 32 were received for consideration. No preliminary amendments to the claims were filed. Claims 1 – 32 are currently being considered.

2. Two initialed and dated copies of Applicant's IDS form 1449 are attached to the Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by DeLorme et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,848,373).

Regarding Claim 30, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of:

inputting a map location to a computing device (Fig. 1 – 5 and Column 19 line 41 – Column 22 line 22);

determining a current location; in the computing device, determining a relationship between the input map location and the current location; and providing directions from the current location to the input map location (Fig. 2 – 6 and Column 22 line 9 – Column 23 line 9).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1 – 29, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeLorme et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,848,373 hereinafter "DeLorme") in view of Meyer et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,748,362 hereinafter "Meyer").

Regarding Claim 1, DeLorme teaches and describes a map divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding

digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 7, DeLorme teaches and describes an apparatus to read digital watermarks embedded within a map, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), said apparatus comprising:

a global positioning system receiver to determine a location of said apparatus; an input device to capture an image of at least a portion of the respective map area; memory including executable software instructions stored therein, the instructions to extract the location information from the at least one embedded digital watermark from the captured image of at least a portion of the respective map area, and to correlate the location of the apparatus with the extracted location information; electronic processing circuitry to execute the software instructions; and an output device to indicate the correlation of the apparatus location and the captured watermark location information

(DeLorme Fig.3 – 7; Column 19 line 41 – Column 20 line 7 and Column 25 line 51 – Column 26 line 43). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 10, DeLorme teaches and describes a method of making a map comprising an improvement of:

dividing a map into a plurality of areas; steganographically encoding plural-bit location data within each of the plurality of areas, wherein the location data is unique per each of the plurality of areas (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the location data is steganographically encoding location data. However, Meyer discloses a system for steganographically encoding for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 3, 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 19 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been

obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer to provide efficient representation of digital data and to enable additional benefits of fast encoding/decoding DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 11, DeLorme teaches and describes a method of navigating with a map embedded with digital watermarks comprising the steps of:

extracting a digital watermark from the map, the digital watermark including location information which uniquely identifies the respective map watermark extraction area; comparing the location information to a physical location; and providing feedback to correlate the location information and the physical location (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26 – Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark to extract the digital watermark from the map. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Meyer also teaches extracting the digitally watermarked data (Meyer Column 10 lines 33 – 41). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient

representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme and then extracting digitally watermarked data as taught by Meyer for processing of location information.

Regarding Claim 12, DeLorme teaches and describes a method of correlating a physical location to a map location, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective area, the method comprising the steps of:

extracting the location information from the watermark at the map location; comparing the extracted location information to global positioning system (GPS) received coordinates of the physical location; providing feedback based on the comparison of the physical location and the map location (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26 – Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark to extract the digital watermark from the map. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Meyer also teaches extracting the digitally watermarked data (Meyer Column 10 lines 33 – 41). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in

conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme and then extracting digitally watermarked data as taught by Meyer for processing of location information.

Regarding Claim 14, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59 and Column 11 lines 6 – 19). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 20, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of:

capturing an image of a sign; extracting a digital watermark from the captured image, the watermark including plural-bit data; and outputting a response in accordance

with the plural-bit data (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26 – Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark to extract the digital watermark from the map. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Meyer also teaches extracting the digitally watermarked data (Meyer Column 10 lines 33 – 41). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme and then extracting digitally watermarked data as taught by Meyer for processing of location information.

Regarding Claim 24, DeLorme teaches and describes an apparatus to read digital watermarks embedded within a map, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded distal watermark including location information for the respective map area, said apparatus comprising:

a global positioning system receiving means for determining a location of said apparatus; input means for inputting an image of at least a portion of the respective map area; memory means for maintaining executable software instructions stored therein,

the instructions to extract the location information from the at least one embedded digital watermark from the captured image of at least a portion of the respective map area, and to correlate the location of the apparatus with the extracted location information; processing means for processing the software instructions; and output means for outputting a correlation of the apparatus location and the watermark location information (DeLorme Fig.3 – 7; Column 19 line 41 – Column 20 line 7 and Column 25 line 51 – Column 26 line 43). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 25, DeLorme teaches and describes an apparatus to read digital watermarks embedded within a map, the digital watermarks including location information for respective map locations, said apparatus comprising:

a global positioning system receiving means for determining a physical location of said apparatus; input means for inputting data corresponding to at least a portion of the respective map area; processing means for extracting the location information from

the input data and for correlating the physical location with the extracted location information; and output means for outputting an indication of the relative correlation between the apparatus location and the watermark location information (DeLorme Fig.3 – 7; Column 19 line 41 – Column 20 line 7 and Column 25 line 51 – Column 26 line 43). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 26, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of:

accessing a database comprising information; retrieving a subset of the database information; storing the retrieved subset of database information in a handheld computing device, the handheld device including an input device (DeLorme Column 7 line 53 – Column 11 line 32) ;

capturing a portion of a digitally watermarked map by the input device, the portion including at least one watermark comprising map location information; in the

handheld computing device, determining which of the retrieved subset database information corresponds to the map location information; and providing the corresponding retrieved subset database information as feedback (DeLorme Fig.3 – 7; Column 19 line 41 – Column 20 line 7 and Column 25 line 51 – Column 26 line 43). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Claim 2 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a map divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein the location information comprises a center location for the respective map area (DeLorme Column 35 line 37 – 58).

Claim 3 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a map divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein the respective map area comprises a boundary and the location information comprises coordinates for the boundary (DeLorme Summary; Column 8 lines 1 – 50 and Column 12 lines 6 – 16).

Claim 4 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a map divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein the respective map area comprises four comers and the location information comprises coordinates for each of the four comers (DeLorme Column 11 lines 6 – 34).

Claim 5 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a map divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein the

at least one embedded digital watermark includes a coverage area of the map (DeLorme Column 20 lines 34 – 55).

Claim 8 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 7. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes an apparatus to read digital watermarks embedded within a map, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein said apparatus is a handheld apparatus (DeLorme Column 2 lines 43 – 58; Column 19 lines 1 – 55; Column 49 lines 6 – 22 and Column 56 lines 16 – 25).

Claim 9 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 7. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes an apparatus to read digital watermarks embedded within a map, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein the output device provides one of an LED indication, arrow indication, audio indication, grid indication, and visual display (DeLorme Column 5 lines 50 – 54; Column 12 lines 40 – 60 and Column 15 lines 5 – 31).

Claim 15 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 14. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59 and Column 11 lines 6 – 19), wherein in the unique identifier identifies the location of the sign (DeLorme Column 36 lines 36 – 54).

Claim 16 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 14. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59 and Column 11 lines 6 – 19), wherein the unique identifier conveys a message (DeLorme Column 16 lines 46 – 62).

Claim 18 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 14. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59 and Column 11 lines 6 – 19), wherein the unique identifier is an index for a database, the database comprising data records (DeLorme Column 11 line 6 – Column 12 line 11).

Claim 21 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 20. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of capturing an image of a sign; extracting a digital watermark from the captured image, the watermark including plural-bit data; and outputting a response in accordance with the plural-bit data (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26 – Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), further comprising the step of interrogating a database with the plural-bit data to locate a corresponding web page address (DeLorme Column 6 lines 43 – 61 and Column 24 lines 11 – 56).

Claim 23 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 20. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of capturing an image of a sign; extracting a digital watermark from the captured image, the watermark including plural-bit data; and outputting a response in accordance with the plural-bit data (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26 – Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), further comprising the step of accessing a file associated with the plural-bit data, the file including one of audio, video, and text data (DeLorme Column 4 lines 1 – 6 and Column 5 lines 50 – 55).

Claim 27 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 26. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of accessing a

database comprising information; retrieving a subset of the database information; storing the retrieved subset of database information in a handheld computing device, the handheld device including an input device (DeLorme Column 7 line 53 – Column 11 line 32), further comprising the step of wirelessly accessing the database (DeLorme Column 24 lines 1 – 47).

Claim 28 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 26. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of accessing a database comprising information; retrieving a subset of the database information; storing the retrieved subset of database information in a handheld computing device, the handheld device including an input device (DeLorme Column 7 line 53 – Column 11 line 32), wherein the database information includes at least one of road directions, restaurant information, store or restaurant promotions, coupons, tourist information, historical information, zoo information, amusement park information, rest-stop information, road conditions, road work information, and detour information (DeLorme Column 51 line 26 – Column 52 line 43 and Column 54 lines 22 – 33).

Claim 29 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 26. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of accessing a database comprising information; retrieving a subset of the database information; storing the retrieved subset of database information in a handheld computing device, the handheld device including an input device (DeLorme Column 7 line 53 – Column 11

line 32), wherein the feedback comprises at least one of usual feedback, audible feedback, text feedback, graphical user interface feedback, laser pointer illumination and a printed document . (DeLorme Column 4 lines 1 – 6; Column 5 lines 50 – 55; Column 12 lines 40 – 60 and Column 15 lines 5 – 31).

Claim 31 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 30. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of inputting a map location to a computing device (Fig. 1 – 5 and Column 19 line 41 – Column 22 line 22), wherein the map includes a plurality of digital watermarks, and said inputting step comprises the steps of reading at least one digital water, the watermark comprising the map location (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Claim 6 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 5. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a map divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein at least one embedded digital watermark includes an orientation signal (DeLorme Column 12 lines 40 – 60 and Column 13 lines 14 – 30).

Claim 13 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 12. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method of correlating a physical location to a map location, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein the location information comprises an index, a database with the index to identify location information (DeLorme Column 11 line 6 – Column 12 line 11).

Claim 17 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 16. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59 and Column 11 lines 6 – 19), wherein the message is one of a speed limit, directions, location of an

establishment, and seating information (DeLorme Column 12 line 40 – Column 13 line 30).

Claim 19 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 18. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59 and Column 11 lines 6 – 19), wherein a data record comprises at least one of a speed limit, directions, location of an establishment, Java applets, lodging vacancy, menu, hours of operation, tourist information, HTML code, URL page, IP address, and seating information (DeLorme Column 12 lines 40 – 60).

Claim 22 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 21. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of capturing an image of a sign; extracting a digital watermark from the captured image, the watermark including plural-bit data; and outputting a response in accordance with the plural-bit data (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26 – Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein the response comprises displaying the web page associated with title web page address (DeLorme Column 6 lines 43 – 61 and Column 24 lines 11 – 56).

Claim 32 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 31. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of inputting a map location to a computing device (Fig. 1 – 5 and Column 19 line 41 – Column 22 line 22), wherein said determining a current location step comprises a step of receiving GPS signals to determine the current location (DeLorme Column 7 line 42 – Column 8 line 15 and Column 19 line 41 – Column 21 line 40).

Conclusion

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 **or faxed to:** (703) 872-9306 for all formal communications.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pramila Parthasarathy whose telephone number is 703-305-8912. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00a.m. To 5:00p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 703-305-9648. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Pramila Parthasarathy
September 16, 2004.

AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100